

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

1. Cancel claims 1 – 6 and 9 - 11 without prejudice or disclaimer.
2. Amend independent claims 7 and 8.
3. Add new claims 19-29.
4. Respectfully traverse all prior art rejections.

B. PATENTABILITY OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4, 6-9 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by USB Specification Revision 1.1. Claims 1-4, 6-9 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,415,343 to Fensore et al. All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

New independent claim 19 specifies actions such as

detecting a change in a specification for a device attached to the apparatus to be controlled;

obtaining, from a memory, changed identification information which is representative of a combination of the apparatus to be controlled and the attached device with the changed specification;

transmitting the changed identification information from the apparatus to be controlled to the controlling apparatus.

New independent claim 19 is supported, e.g., by the first full paragraph of page 28 (reproduced below, with emphasis to show that the identification information is representative of a combination of the apparatus to be controlled and the attached device), as well as by the paragraph bridging pages 28 and 29 (reproduced below, with emphasis to show that the changed identification information is obtained from a memory),

first full paragraph of page 28:

For example, in step S201, when the attached device 30 is connected to the apparatus to be controlled 20, the apparatus to be controlled 20 detects the change in the connection situation caused by the connecting of the attached device 30, as a change in the specification of *the entirety of the apparatus to be controlled 20 and the attached device 30*.

New independent claim 23 is an apparatus analog of independent claim 19, specifically concerning the apparatus to be controlled. New independent claim 23 is supported by specification text including that mentioned above, in conjunction with, e.g., the first connection unit 15 described in the specification.

paragraph bridging pages 28 and 29:

In the apparatus to be controlled 20, under the control of the CPU 21, identification information corresponding to the changed specification is *extracted from the storage unit 24* on the basis of the change detected in step S201 (S205). Then, the identification information extracted in step S205 is set as identification information to be transmitted to the controlling apparatus 10 (S206), so that the identification information to be transmitted to the controlling apparatus 10 is changed.

New independent claim 27 describes other aspects of the apparatus to be controlled, and has support as explained above and in conjunction with, e.g., the specification's description of the second connection unit 27. Further, the specification supports "plural pieces of identification information, each piece of the identification information being used for identifying a unique combination of the apparatus to be controlled and an associated one of the plural possible devices to be attached" as evidenced, e.g., by the first full paragraph of page 9; the second full paragraph of page 12; page 31, lines 4 – 7; the first full paragraph of page 51, etc.

Independent claims 7 and 8 has been amended in manners consistent with and understood by new independent claim 19.

The applied prior art references fail to teach or suggest, e.g., selection and transmission of identification information is representative of a *combination* of the apparatus to be controlled and the attached device. Therefore, all pending claims are deemed patentable.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
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